

“Promising Practices”

**Montana’s 2008 Full-Time
Kindergarten Conference
for Curriculum Directors,
Teachers, Administrators
and Staff**



August 12-13, 2008

Billings Hotel and Convention Center, Billings, MT



Linda McCulloch, Superintendent
Montana Office of Public Instruction
www.opi.mt.gov



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Linda McCulloch
State Superintendent

Dear Full-Time Kindergarten Conference Participants:

Thank you so much for attending Montana's Second Full-Time Kindergarten Conference! I am excited you could be here, because without you, Full-Time Kindergarten would not be the program it is today.

The progress we made in one year of funding Full-Time Kindergarten is amazing. I am proud of all we have accomplished together. Passing SB2 freed up valuable general fund dollars for the 63 school districts that were offering Full-Time Kindergarten prior to this school year. The 133 new districts offering Full-Time Kindergarten started a great journey into improving both the academic performance and school experience for your students. Congratulations!

Over the past year, I have traveled the state and talked to teachers, administrators, and paraprofessionals about their experiences with implementing Full-Time Kindergarten. For some it was a rocky road, and for others it was a much easier task. Not everyone was convinced this program would be the success we claimed it would be. As I talked to educators and parents, I heard stories of how students' reading improved and of how smooth the transition proved to be. Teachers are excited about having time to offer a more enriching environment that includes music and art lessons. Parents are excited teachers have more time to learn about individual students' needs.

I hope at the end of this conference, you will have gained new and valuable information to use in your classroom and in your school. We will post conference materials on our website so you can visit www.opi.mt.gov for more information about Full-Time Kindergarten. If you would like to contribute lesson ideas, classroom suggestions, or any other information valuable to kindergarten teachers, please contact me. I would love your input!

I know this is an exciting event, but I must mention one more thing. This is my last term as your State Superintendent. We have enjoyed eight extraordinary years together, and I could not leave without thanking you for your friendship and support over the years. I want to congratulate teachers, principals, superintendents, education professionals and school staff for dedicating your time to improving the lives of Montana students.

I also want to thank Attorney General Mike McGrath, Keynote Speaker D. Ray Reutzel, and our presenters for rearranging their summer schedules to share with us innovative ideas and useful materials that will help us ensure Full-Time Kindergarten is here to stay!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda McCulloch".

Linda McCulloch
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

"It is the mission of the Office of Public Instruction to improve teaching and learning through communication, collaboration, advocacy, and accountability to those we serve."

“Promising Practices”

2008 Full-Time Kindergarten Conference

Hosted By Montana Office of Public Instruction

Tuesday - August 12, 2008

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Convention Center Foyer

Late Registration and Pick Up Conference Packets

12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.
Trapper/Scout Rooms

Lunch

1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Trapper/Scout Rooms

Opening Remarks – Conference Kickoff

Linda McCulloch, State Superintendent

Mike McGrath, Attorney General

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Breakout Sessions, Group One

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.
Trapper/Scout Rooms

Snack Break

3:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

**Breakout Sessions,
Group Two**

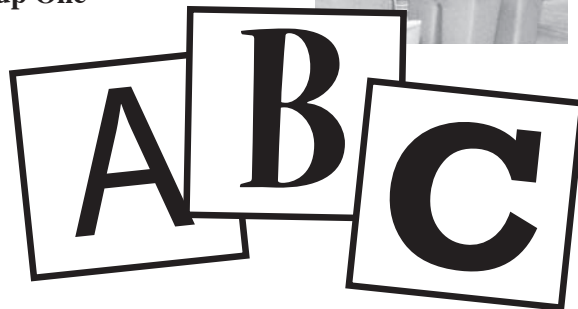
5:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Trapper/Scout Rooms

**Dinner – Sponsored by
MEA-MFT**

6:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Trapper/Scout Rooms

Keynote Speaker,

D. Ray Reutzel: Author and Professor, Utah State University



Wednesday - August 13, 2008

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
Convention Center Foyer

Late Registration and Pick Up Conference Packets

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Trapper/Scout Rooms

Breakfast

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Trapper/Scout Rooms

Model Curriculum Panel

Linda Peterson, Moderator. Terri Middagh, Karen Mikota, Elaine Meeks and Rhonda Baker, Co-Contributors.

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Breakout Sessions, Group Three

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Trapper/Scout Rooms

Snack Break

10:45 p.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Breakout Sessions, Group Four

12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Convention Center Foyer

Exhibits

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Trapper/Scout Rooms

Lunch and Farewell Celebration



Linda McCulloch, Superintendent
Montana Office of Public Instruction
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Room schedules for Group 1 and Group 2

August 12 th --Registration				
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Lunch Welcome by Superintendent Linda McCulloch/Attorney General Mike McGrath			
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Day In The Life (Karen Mikota and Terri Middagh) <u>Homesteader Room</u>	Letter Names: Early Reading and Writing Success (D. Ray Reutzel) <u>Prospector Room</u>	A Principal's Perspective on Full Time K (Elaine Meeks) <u>Parlor 101</u>	Indian Education For All: Social Studies for K (Justine Jam) <u>Parlor 110</u>
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Exhibits Open			
3:30 - 3:45 pm	Snack Break			
3:45 pm - 5:15 pm	Creating Student Electronic Portfolios (Terri Middagh) <u>Homesteader Room</u>	Read Well (Jean Fisher) <u>Prospector Room</u>	Kindergarten Counting and Number Sense (Coleene Torgerson) <u>Parlor 101</u>	Day In The Life (Kay Faust, Katie Gneiting and Buffy Chamberlin) <u>Parlor 110</u>
5:45 pm - 7:30 pm	Dinner Keynote Speaker: D. Ray Reutzel			
	Technology Integration: "Cool Tools" For The K Classroom (Terri Barclay) <u>Ballroom</u>			
	Handy Hints For Effective Classroom Management (Jane Carlson) <u>Ballroom</u>			

Room schedules for Group 3 and Group 4

7 : 0 0 a m - 8 : 0 0 a m	August 13 th --Registration				
7 : 3 0 a m - 9 : 0 0 a m	<div>Breakfast</div> <div>Panel: Model Curriculum (Moderator Linda Peterson introduces Terri Middagh, Karen Mikota, Elaine Meeks and Rhonda Baker)</div>				
9 : 0 0 a m - 10 : 3 0 a m	<div>Model Curriculum (Karen Mikota, Meg Lewis and Terri Barclay)</div> <div><u>Homesteader Room</u></div>	<div>Workstations in the K Classroom (Rhonda Baker)</div> <div><u>Prospector Room</u></div>	<div>Ideas for Effective Language Instruction (Rae Lilly)</div> <div><u>Parlor 101</u></div>	<div>Science Education in the K Classroom (Katie Moore)</div> <div><u>Parlor 110</u></div>	<div>R & D Program Reading (Erika Cusick)</div> <div><u>Ballroom</u></div>
10 : 3 0 a m - 10 : 4 5 a m	Snack Break				
10 : 4 5 a m - 12 : 0 0 p m	<div>Model Curriculum (Terri Middagh, Rhonda Baker, Jane Carlson and Lynn Navratil)</div> <div><u>Homesteader Room</u></div>	<div>Math for Kindergartners: More Than Counting (Megan Lewis)</div> <div><u>Prospector Room</u></div>	<div>The MT School Readiness Initiative (Mary Jane Standaert)</div> <div><u>Parlor 101</u></div>	<div>Engaging Young Students in Literacy (Courtney Peterson)</div> <div><u>Parlor 110</u></div>	<div>The SmartBoard in Kindergarten (Coleene Torgerson and Erika Cusick)</div> <div><u>Ballroom</u></div>
12 : 0 0 p m - 12 : 3 0 p m	Exhibits				
12 : 3 0 p m - 2 : 0 0 p m	<div>Lunch and Farewell Celebration</div> <div>Thank you for participating in the 2008 Full-Time Kindergarten Conference!!</div>				

Breakout Session Room Schedules

Breakout Session Summaries

August 12th 2-3:30 pm: (Group One)

A Day in the Life: Full-Time Kindergarten with a Developmental Approach

Terri Middagh and Karen Mikota

This session will provide strategies to aid the teacher in the successful implementation of a Full-Time Kindergarten program. Topics include scheduling, curriculum, assessments, transitions, parent communication, developmental and behavioral strategies, and the first six weeks.

"Knowing Letter Names: A Strong Predictor of Future Reading and Writing Success for Young Children."

Keynote Speaker D. Ray Reutzel

This presentation reports new research on the role of knowing letter names in predicting early reading success. For many years, the role of learning letter names as opposed to letter sounds has been debated. The National Reading Panel (2000) reported that knowing letter names and phonemic awareness were the two best predictors of early reading success. Which was the best predictor? Well, it was letter names. This session gives teachers several research based ways and sequences to teach different aspects of letter names, the rate at which to teach letter names (Law of 10-20), and new findings on the effectiveness of these approaches.

A Principal's Perspective on Full-Time Kindergarten

Elaine Meeks

This session will address leadership issues in relation to the implementation of Full-Time Kindergarten. The presenter will share the essential skills and knowledge needed by administrators of Early Childhood programs. Participants will have the opportunity to look in-depth at the Model Full-Time Kindergarten Curriculum and consider issues of supervision and monitoring of the Kindergarten program. In addition, the session will address the impact of Full-Time Kindergarten on the entire elementary program.

Indian Education For All: Social Studies for K - We Can Order Events in Time

Justine Jam

The literature "Shi-shi-etko" presents a moving story, evoking empathy for a young girl faced with having to leave home to attend a boarding school. Teachers will review Indian Education Essential Understanding 3 (Indigenous languages are still spoken ...) and 5 (Federal policies, put into place throughout American history, have affected Indian people and still shape who they are today – Boarding School Period 1879 – Present).

Technology Integration: Cool Tools for the Kindergarten Classroom

Terri Barclay

The speaker will present "cool tools" on the cutting-edge of technology, SmartBoard applications, and basic computer applications to use at kindergarten learning centers. Participants will learn all the effective ways to incorporate technology into the kindergarten classroom to further student exploration and learning.

August 12th 3:34-5:15 pm: (Group Two)

A Day in the Life of Full-Time Kindergarten: Columbus Team

Kay Faust, Katie Gneiting and Buffy Chamberlin

These presenters were given the opportunity to design a whole new approach to kindergarten and came up with a schedule designed to meet the needs of every learner! Their program combines whole group learning and flexible grouping as well as student directed learning centers, to provide ample opportunity for children to learn, explore, and reinforce those skills necessary for academic success. They look forward to sharing their experiences in the hopes that others can adapt them to their own teaching situations.

Handy Hints for Effective Classroom Management

Jane Carlson

This workshop is designed to help kindergarten teachers as they prepare to establish a classroom that offers a safe and comfortable environment for all children. We will discuss relevant issues, management strategies and discipline techniques that help provide the framework for a fun, secure and consistent learning environment.

Read Well in Kindergarten

Jean Fisher

Perhaps you've been wondering about an appropriate reading program for kindergarten. Read Well is approved by Reading First and has been very successful in our kindergarten. Last year was our first all day/every day kindergarten class. With the help of Read Well, 100% of our Canyon kindergartners were proficient in letter naming and letter sounds. All could decode CVC words and many were well beyond that. Join us and see what you think. P.S. I don't work for Read Well!

Creating Student Electronic Portfolios

Terri Middagh

This presentation will provide the rationale for student portfolios in an electronic format. You will learn information about the necessary hardware and software and view examples of a variety of electronic portfolio formats. The session will include a timeline to assist the implementation of electronic portfolios for your class and a question and answer period.

Kindergarten Counting and Number Sense

Coleene Torgerson

Come have fun playing with numbers! This session will include activities and research from ER&D Thinking Math 1, which will outline the developmental path to building number sense through the use of patterns, counting strategies, and mental math.

August 13th 9-10:30 am: (Group Three)

Model Curriculum...Continued from Panel Discussion

Karen Mikota, Meg Lewis and Terri Barclay

This presentation is meant for those seeking further insight into the design of the integrated model curriculum for Full-Time Kindergarten teachers in the state of Montana. We will provide the rationale, guiding principles, and research used in creating the document. It was designed to be easy to use and a helpful resource with specific elements of learning, suggested activities, assessments and resources.

Ideas For Effective Language Instruction

Rae Lilly

The purpose of this workshop is to discuss techniques for managing various academic levels of kindergarteners in a classroom. Ideas will be presented which focus on fostering student independence.

Work Stations in the Kindergarten Classroom

Rhonda Baker

This session will include the set-up, implementation, and management of work stations (learning centers) in the Full-Time Kindergarten classroom. Learn how to provide differentiated activities in each work station to meet the needs of all students in your Full-Time Kindergarten classroom. Examples of activities and how they are changed to meet the varying needs of students will be provided.

Educational Research and Dissemination Beginning Reading Instruction (R&D)

Erika Cusick

We will be participating in activities and referring to research from ER & D's Beginning Reading Instruction to reflect on the importance of quality reading instruction in the kindergarten classroom. Topics will include, but are not limited to: phonics and phonemic awareness.

Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, and Evaluate: Science Education in the Kindergarten Classroom

Katie Moore

This session will cover key issues and resources that relate to science education in the kindergarten classroom. Topics that will be discussed include the revised Montana Science Content Standards and inquiry-based instruction. The revised content standards reflect a national push toward more inquiry-based instruction. This session will include a model inquiry lesson as well as discussion of the 5 E model of inquiry in the classroom. Attendees of this session will be provided with inquiry-based lessons, as well as a list of print and internet resources.

August 13th 10:45-12:00pm: (Group Four)

Model Curriculum...Continued from Panel Discussion

Terri Middagh, Rhonda Baker, Jane Carlson

This presentation is meant for those seeking further insight into the design of the integrated model curriculum for Full-Time Kindergarten teachers in the state of Montana. We will provide the rationale, guiding principles, and research used in creating the document. It was designed to be easy to use and a helpful resource with specific elements of learning, suggested activities, assessments and resources.

Math for Kindergarteners: More than Counting

Megan Lewis

Come and explore the exciting world of Math! I will present a variety of math activities, games and literature that can be used in your kindergarten classroom to teach and reinforce important math skills. We will also explore the possibility of using a daily math journal to enhance students' understanding of numbers.

Engaging Young Students in Literacy

Courtney Peterson

Kindergarten literacy instruction builds a foundation for learning to read. In this session, participants will explore the many aspects of kindergarten literacy instruction including letter knowledge, oral language, phonological awareness, high-frequency word reading, and "read alouds." All of this will be tied to core program instruction with practical ideas to ensure student engagement.

The SmartBoard in Kindergarten

Coleene Torgerson and Erika Cusick

We will explore the use of SmartBoards in the kindergarten setting. Topics covered will include: Intro to SmartBoard Version 10, Calendar, Attendance, Daily Schedule, Reading, Math, Fun Websites and activities.

The Montana School Readiness Initiative

Mary Jane Standaert

The Montana School Readiness Initiative started with a summit in June 2006 with support from the Governor's Office and the Washington Foundation. This presentation will share some of the highlights of the last couple of years of what is being done at the state government level to support school readiness. Participants will learn about the Ready Child Equation, local School Readiness teams and other resources. The session will be interactive and will seek information from participants and provide a playful activity for the professionals that attend.



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Keynote Presenter

D. Ray Reutzel

D. Ray Reutzel is the Emma Eccles Jones Distinguished Professor and Endowed Chair of Early Childhood Education at Utah State University. He is a former Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Southern Utah University; Associate Dean of Teacher Education in the David O. McKay School of Education; and former Chair of the Department of Elementary Education at Brigham Young University.



While at BYU, D. Reutzel received the 1992 Karl G. Maeser Distinguished Research and Creative Arts Professor Award. He was also an integral part of developing BYU’s nationally celebrated Public School Partnership; the field-based Elementary Education program; the Center for Improvement of Teacher Education and Schooling (CITES); and the Utah/CITES Balanced Literacy Initiative. Several years ago, D. Reutzel took a leave from his university faculty position to return to Full-Time, 1st Grade classroom teaching in Sage Creek Elementary School. He has taught in Kindergarten, 1st Grade, 3rd Grade and 6th Grade. He has also served as Technical Assistant to the Reading Excellence Act and the Reading First federal reading reform projects in the state of Utah.

D. Reutzel is the author of more than 165 refereed research reports, articles, books, book chapters and monographs. He has received more than 5.5 million dollars in research/professional development funding from private, state and federal funding agencies. Most recently, he was awarded a 1 million dollar research grant as Principal Investigator under the Teacher Quality Research Program of the Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education. D. Reutzel was also awarded the Researcher/Scholar of the Year Award by the College of Education and Human Services at Utah State University in May, 2004. In April 2005, he was elected Vice-President of the College Reading Association, and began serving as its President in 2007. He will also serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the International Reading Association until 2010.

Don't Miss It!

Breakout Session – August 12th, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

"Knowing Letter Names: A Strong Predictor of Future Reading and Writing Success for Young Children."

Keynote Address – August 12th, 6:45-7:30 p.m.

"Developmentally Appropriate Elements for Supporting Extended Day Kindergarten Instruction:
What Does the Research Say?"

Meet the 2008 Full-Time Kindergarten Conference Presenters



Karen Mikota began teaching long, long ago in the attic of her family home surrounded by stuffed animals and dolls. She has continued on that path ever since. Officially, her career began in Billings at the “dawn of mankind.” After years of teaching all grades K-8, she became the fortunate teacher of a Full-Time Kindergarten in Helena. This year, Karen had the opportunity to co-facilitate the writing of a model kindergarten curriculum for the state of Montana. It continues to be an extraordinary experience!

Terri Middagh has a degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Special Education. She is also a trained Reading Recovery Teacher and holds a Masters in Learning Science. Terri has taught Special Education, Reading Recovery, Half-Time Kindergarten, and Full-Time Kindergarten. She currently teaches Full-Time Kindergarten at Bryant Elementary School in Helena and is a co-facilitator for a model kindergarten curriculum for the state of Montana.



Elaine Meeks is the principal of Cherry Valley Elementary School on the Flathead Reservation in Polson, Montana. She is also a member of the Office of Public Instruction Model Full-Time Kindergarten Program team. During her career, Elaine has worked as a Kindergarten and Special Education Teacher, Special Education Director, Principal and Educational Consultant. She is a recipient of the Milken National Educator Award and holds a B.A. in History of Art from U.C. Berkeley, a M.A. in Special Education from C.S.U. Sacramento, and Administrator Endorsements from the University of Montana.

Justine Jam was born in Washington D.C. and raised primarily in Montana. Before becoming an OPI Education Specialist in the IEFA division, Justine taught K, K/1, 3rd and K-6 Art to Navajo, Hispanic, Zuni, Hopi, and Anglo students in Gallup and Las Vegas. She was also a K-3 Reading Instructor and 3rd grade Classroom Instructor at Rocky Boy Elementary on the Chippewa Cree Reservation. Justine attended the University of Montana, Missoula and graduated with a B.S. from MSU-N, Havre. She received her M.A. in 2006 from New Mexico Highlands University.



Terri Barclay is a teacher at St. Regis School where she has taught for 14 years. She is currently the K-12 Special Education Teacher, and oversees Schoolwide Title I. Terri has 12 years experience in General Education and 2 years experience as a Special Education Teacher. She is also the Technology Integration person for St. Regis, and has helped teachers integrate technology into their teaching and classroom as the on-site coordinator for the TicToc PSATT grant.

Kay Faust graduated from Montana State University in Elementary Education with an endorsement in reading K-12, and did her “fifth year”, which is required to teach in Washington, at Western Washington University. She taught Full-Time Kindergarten in Bellingham, Washington before moving back to Montana. She has experience teaching 2nd Grade, Kindergarten, and Title I using Reading Recovery. Kay currently teaches Full-Time Kindergarten in Columbus and whole heartedly supports the program as it allows time to talk and listen to students and understand what they need to be successful in school!





Katie Gneiting grew up in the Flathead area. On her first day home from school she declared that she was going to be a teacher. She never changed her mind. Katie went to Eastern Montana College, now MSU-B, studying elementary education and music. Her first, and only teaching job, was in Columbus. After four years of music and art, she moved to the general classroom. She has taught Kindergarten through 4th Grade during her 31 years. She is now working on teaching the second generation for many Columbus families. Katie loves the new Full-Time Kindergarten program at Columbus and brings years of experience to the Columbus Kindergarten team.

Buffy Chamberlin teaches at Columbus Elementary School and has been working with children for as long as she can remember. Buffy worked at a daycare in high school and then taught pre-school in Billings for six years while going to college at MSU-Billings. In 2005, she landed her first teaching job in Columbus. Buffy first taught Half-Day Kindergarten, then moved to 3rd Grade, and last year she returned to kindergarten teaching a full-time program. Buffy absolutely loves it, and is so glad it is here to stay.



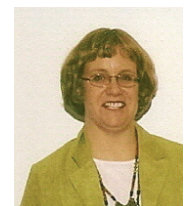
Mary Jane Standaert has been an early childhood professional for over 30 years, working with children, families, and staff from private preschool, to Head Start, to college instruction. She is currently the Director of the Montana Head Start/State Collaboration Office and also directs the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems grant. Both of these federally funded grants are focused long term on children's readiness for school. Mary Jane is a contractor within state government in the Early Childhood Services Bureau of DPHHS.

Jane Carlson received her BA in Education from the University of Montana in 1977. In 1990 she earned a M.E. with an Early Childhood Option from Eastern Montana College. Jane began her teaching career in Deer Lodge, Montana where she taught Kindergarten and 1st Grade. She then moved to Billings, for a position at Lockwood School. After 25 years of kindergarten with the Lockwood School district, Jane completed her 31st year of early childhood education. Teaching kindergarten is Jane's passion!



Jean Fisher has resided just outside of Columbia Falls for 18 years. She currently teaches All Day/Every Day Kindergarten at Canyon Elementary in Hungry Horse, Montana, and absolutely loves it! She attended Flathead Valley Community College and graduated from the University of Great Falls. While earning her B.A., Jane never thought she would teach kindergarten, but she couldn't be happier in the role.

Coleene Torgerson is a graduate of Montana State University and has been a Kindergarten/1st Grade Teacher at Lakeside Elementary School, in Bigfork, Montana for 23 years. She has taught Full-Time Kindergarten for the past 4 years. Coleene recently completed 45 hours of training in Baltimore to become a certified ER&D Thinking Math I instructor.





Meg Lewis is a Kindergarten Teacher at Cherry Valley Elementary in Polson, Montana. She has been teaching for 9 years. Meg graduated from the University of Montana with a B.A. in Elementary Education, and from Lesley College with a M.A. in Technology in Education. In the spring of 2008, Meg had the opportunity to help develop the OPI Full-Time Kindergarten Curriculum.

Rae Lilly began her teaching journey at Montana State University, after five years in the design field. Student teaching in New Zealand was the highlight of her studies. Rae became a certified Elementary Teacher in 1992, and began her new career teaching 2nd and 3rd grade at Morning Star Elementary School in Bozeman, Montana. Rae earned her M.A. through Lesley College in Massachusetts. She currently teaches Kindergarten at Monforton School.



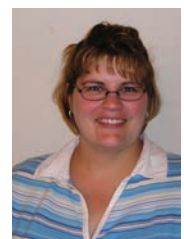
Rhonda Baker has worked in the same school district for 22 years and is currently a Kindergarten Teacher in Harlem, Montana. She has 13 years experience with both Full-Time and Half-Day Kindergarten. Rhonda graduated from the University of North Dakota with a B.S. in Elementary Education. In 2004, she earned an M.S. in Learning Development from Montana State University-Northern. She earned the Montana K-12 Principal Endorsement one year later.

Courtney Peterson is a Montana educator with 12 years of teaching experience. She has taught Kindergarten, 4th Grade and 5th Grade. Courtney graduated from MSU-Billings with her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. She currently works as a Reading First specialist for the Office of Public Instruction. In this role, Courtney supports K – 3 teachers in areas such as instruction, academic engagement, and reading interventions. In the next few years, she hopes to transition to the role of an Elementary Principal.



Katie Moore is the Science Curriculum Specialist at the Montana Office of Public Instruction. She has a B.S. in Biology with an emphasis in Secondary Education from Western Washington University in Bellingham, WA. Katie taught Biology and Integrated Science at Columbia River High School in Vancouver, WA for 4 years, before returning to her home town of Helena, MT. She is currently working on her Masters in Science Education at Montana State University.

Erika Cusick is a graduate of the University of Montana. She earned her Masters in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Literacy from Lesley University in Cambridge, MA. Erika began her career at Lakeside Elementary School in 2001 and taught her first Full-Day group in 2007. That same year, she became a certified ER&D Beginning Reading Instruction facilitator. Erika is from Kalispell and is thrilled to have been able to return to Flathead Valley to pursue her dream of teaching.



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**The Montana Office of Public Instruction
would like to thank the following
2008 Full-Time Kindergarten
Conference Sponsors for their generous support
in making this year's event a success.**

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Superintendent Linda McCulloch's
Kindergarten Class Photograph

Can you guess which student is Linda?



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